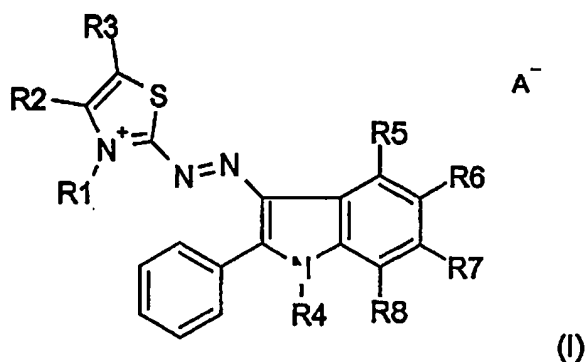


CLAIMS

1. (original) Agent for coloring keratin fibers, characterized in that it contains at least one indolylthiazoliumazo dye of general formula (I)



wherein

R1 is a saturated or unsaturated (C₁-C₁₂)-alkyl group, a halogen atom substituted (C₁-C₁₂)-alkyl group, a hydroxy-(C₁-C₁₂)-alkyl group, a (C₁-C₆)-alkoxy-(C₁-C₁₂)-alkyl group, an amino-(C₁-C₁₂)-alkyl group, a (C₁-C₆)-alkylamino-(C₁-C₁₂)-alkyl group, a di(C₁-C₆)-alkyl-amino-(C₁-C₁₂)-alkyl group, a cyano-(C₁-C₁₂)-alkyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl group or a substituted or unsubstituted benzyl group;

R2 and **R3** can be equal or different and independently of each other stand for hydrogen, a halogen atom, a saturated or unsaturated (C₁-C₁₂)-alkyl group, a (C₁-C₁₂)-alkoxy group, a nitro group, an amino group, a (C₁-C₁₂)-alkylamino group, a di(C₁-C₁₂)-alkylamino group, a (C₁-C₁₂)-hydroxyalkylamino group, a di(C₁-C₁₂)-hydroxyalkylamino group, a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl group or a substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl group;

R4 stands for hydrogen, a saturated or unsaturated (C₁-C₁₂)-alkyl group, a halogen atom -substituted (C₁-C₁₂)-alkyl group, a hydroxy-(C₁-C₁₂)-alkyl group, (C₁-C₆)-alkoxy-(C₁-C₁₂)-alkyl group, an amino-(C₁-C₁₂)-alkyl group, a (C₁-C₆)-alkylamino-(C₁-C₁₂)-alkyl group, a di(C₁-C₆)-alkylamino-(C₁-C₁₂)-alkyl group, a cyano-(C₁-C₁₂)-alkyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted benzyl group or a substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl group;

R5, R6, R7 and R8 can be equal or different and independently of each other stand for hydrogen, a halogen atom, a saturated or unsaturated (C₁-C₁₂)-alkyl group, a hydroxyl group, a (C₁-C₁₂)-alkoxy group, a nitro group, an amino group, a (C₁-C₁₂)-alkylamino group or a di(C₁-C₁₂)-alkylamino group, and

A⁻ stands for an anion of an organic or inorganic acid.

2. (original) Agent as defined in claim 1, characterized in that **R1** stands for a saturated or un-saturated (C₁-C₁₂)-alkyl group and **R4** stands for hydrogen, a saturated or unsaturated (C₁-C₁₂)-alkyl group or a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl group.

3. (original) Agent as defined in claim 2, characterized in that **R1** stands for a saturated (C₁-C₁₂)-alkyl group and **R4** stands for hydrogen, a saturated (C₁-C₁₂)-alkyl group or an un-substituted phenyl group.

4. (currently amended) Agent as defined in ~~one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, characterized in that **A⁻** stands for a chloride, bromide, iodide, hydrogen sulfate, sulfate, toluenesulfonate, benzenesulfonate, monomethylsulfate, hexafluorophosphate, hexafluoroantimonate, tetrafluoroborate, tetraphenylborate, formate, acetate or propionate anion.

5. (currently amended) Agent as defined in ~~one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, characterized in that the compound of formula (I) is selected from among 3-methyl-2-[(1-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium chloride, 3-methyl-2-[(1-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium bromide, 3-methyl-2-[(1-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium monomethylsulfate, 3,4-dimethyl-2-[(1-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium chloride, 3,4-dimethyl-2-[(1-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium bromide, 3,4-dimethyl-2-[(1-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium monomethylsulfate, 3,5-dimethyl-2-[(1-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium chloride, 3,5-dimethyl-2-[(1-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium bromide, 3,5-dimethyl-2-[(1-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-

indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium

monomethylsulfate, 3,4,5-trimethyl-2-[(1-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium

chloride, 3,4,5-trimethyl-2-[(1-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium
bromide,

3,4,5-trimethyl-2-[(1-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium

monomethylsulfate, 5-bromo-3-methyl-2-[(1-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium chloride,

5-bromo-3-methyl-2-[(1-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium bromide, 5-bromo-3-methyl-2-[(1-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium monomethylsulfate,

5-methoxy-3-methyl-2-[(1-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium chloride, 5-methoxy-3-methyl-2-[(1-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium bromide,

5-methoxy-3-methyl-2-[(1-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium monomethylsulfate, 3-methyl-2-[(2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium chloride,

3-methyl-2-[(2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium bromide, 3-methyl-2-[(2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium monomethylsulfate,

3,4-dimethyl-2-[(2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium chloride, 3,4-dimethyl-2-[(2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium bromide,

3,4-dimethyl-2-[(2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium monomethyl-sulfate, 3,5-dimethyl-2-[(2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium chloride,

3,5-dimethyl-2-[(2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium bromide, 3,5-dimethyl-2-[(2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-azo]thiazolium monomethylsulfate,

3,4,5-trimethyl-2-[(2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium chloride, 3,4,5-trimethyl-2-[(2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium bromide,

3,4,5-tri-methyl-2-[(2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium monomethylsulfate, 5-bromo-3-methyl-2-[(2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium chloride,

5-bromo-3-methyl-2-[(2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium bromide, 5-bromo-3-methyl-2-[(2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium monomethylsulfate,

5-methoxy-3-methyl-2-[(2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium chloride, 5-methoxy-3-methyl-2-[(2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium bromide,

5-methoxy-3-methyl-2-[(2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium monomethylsulfate, 3-methyl-2-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium chloride,

3-methyl-2-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium bromide, 3-methyl-2-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium

monomethyl-sulfate, 3,4-dimethyl-2-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium chloride, 3,4-dimethyl-2-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium bromide, 3,4-dimethyl-2-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium monomethylsulfate, 3,5-dimethyl-2-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-azo]thiazolium chloride, 3,5-dimethyl-2-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium bromide, 3,5-dimethyl-2-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium monomethylsulfate, 3,4,5-trimethyl-2-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium chloride, 3,4,5-trimethyl-2-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium bromide, 3,4,5-trimethyl-2-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium monomethylsulfate, 5-bromo-3-methyl-2-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium chloride, 5-bromo-3-methyl-2-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium bromide, 5-bromo-3-methyl-2-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium monomethylsulfate, 5-methoxy-3-methyl-2-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium chloride, 5-methoxy-3-methyl-2-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium bromide and 5-methoxy-3-methyl-2-[(1,2-diphenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)azo]thiazolium monomethylsulfate.

6. (currently amended) Agent as defined in ~~one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, characterized in that it contains the compound of formula (I) in an amount from 0.01 to 10 weight percent.

7. (currently amended) Agent as defined in ~~one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, characterized in that it contains at least one additional direct dye.

8. (original) Agent as defined in claim 7, characterized in that it contains the additional direct dye in a total amount from 0.01 to 4 weight percent.

9. (currently amended) Agent as defined in ~~one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, characterized in that it additionally contains oxidation dye precursors and before use is mixed with an oxidant.

10. (currently amended) Agent as defined in ~~one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, characterized in that it has a pH ranging from 3 to 10.

11. (currently amended) Agent as defined in ~~one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, characterized in that it contains at least one natural polymer, synthetic polymer or modified polymer of natural origin commonly used in cosmetic agents and is in the form of a tinting fixative or dye fixative.

12. (currently amended) Agent as defined in ~~one of claims 1 to 11~~ claim 1, characterized in that it is a hair colorant.